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E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/20/2013  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [OAS](#)  
SUBJECT: CANADA SUPPORTS PD INITIATIVE IN OAS ON  
DISCRIMINATION

REF: STATE 17066

Classified By: PolMinCouns Scott Bellard, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

11. (C) Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) Human Rights, Gender Equality, Health and Population Division Officer Cyndy Nelson on February 20 expressed appreciation for reftel points and Canada's support for a joint U.S.-Canada public diplomacy initiative, such as a discussion at the OAS on the UN Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Nelson added that DFAIT has been considering possible topics for such an initiative, and was interested in discussing ideas further with the U.S. Nelson noted that, while Canada is opposed to the establishment of an OAS Discrimination Convention, it wants to ensure that other countries do not view a U.S.-Canada public diplomacy initiative as an attempt to block discussions on establishing a convention.

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